

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC General Information from the Area of the Mechanized Division Potsdam

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

638963

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

28 May 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information.

1. Prior to 22 March 1954, the tank repair shop of Division Potsdam was located in a barracks installation on the road to Golm in Potsdam-Eiche. It was staffed by 5 officers, 10 NCOs and 69 EM, and was organized into three platoons. The shop was commanded by Senior Lieutenant Lowerenz (fna). EM wore blue service color, while the officers wore black-bordered blue collar patches. In February 1954, a total of 16 T-34/85 tanks in need of repair was shipped to the Potsdam-Eiche repair shop by a medium tank regiment of Division Potsdam stationed at Oranienburg. ¹ Another tank unit of Division Potsdam was stationed at Burg.
2. On 28 April, source learned that a KVP telephone center, which was being installed in the Leibgardehusaren Kaserne on Stalin Allee in Potsdam provided for 200 connections, 56 of which were already operated and served KVP installations, including the installation on Ehrenpforten Weg in Potsdam-Eiche; the Garde-du-Corps Kaserne; the installation south of Pappel Allee (Ruinenberg Kaserne); and the installation on Jaeger Allee. ²
3. KVP installations connected with the switching center of the state security service agency at 8 Hegel Allee by local telephone lines included the installation in Eiche; the installation at 84 Stalin Allee; and Villa Ingenheim and Villa Hachfeld on Lenin Allee. In addition to this connection, Villa Ingenheim had a direct connection with the Potsdam telephone network.
4. Elements of the billeting department moved from the Leibgardehusaren Kaserne to the installation on Ruhdorfer Strasse in Teltow.
5. From 30 April to 4 May 1954, training of KVP units quartered in the Ruinenberg Kaserne included infantry training in groups of about 120 men and drill with 45-mm AT guns and other AT guns of a larger caliber in smaller groups in the yard. Trucks occupied by EM and towing AT guns left the installation toward the Bornstedt target ranges.
6. From 24 to 29 April 1954, the KVP unit quartered in the Ruinenberg Kaserne was observed at normal training activity. At 7:30 a.m. on 29 April, at least 500 men wearing red-bordered black, black-bordered red, yellow-bordered black and black-bordered blue collar patches were lined up for a roll call in the yard.

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7. On 22 April, the KVP section of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp quartered an estimated 2,000 men wearing red-bordered black, blue-bordered black, black-bordered blue, yellow-bordered black, red and green collar patches. Record practices with infantry weapons were held in the area east of Lehnitz See (lake) and at the target ranges of the installation. 25X1
8. At about 2 p.m. on 23 April, about 200 civilians, about 18 to 20 years old, and carrying small luggage entered the KVP section of the concentration camp coming from the Oranienburg railroad station. 3
9. From 24 April to 7 May 1954, KVPs from the concentration camp were observed at training with tanks, armored scout cars and infantry weapons. Drill with the AA guns in the yard was observed only in the afternoon. Several groups of KVPs were observed at combat training in the wooded area between the Lehnitz sluice and Schmachtenhagen and near Fichtengrund.
10. In the morning of 1 May, about 800 men from the concentration camp and the Oranienburg castle participated in the May Day demonstrations in Oranienburg. In the afternoon, an athletic contest was held by the KVPs at the athletic field behind the castle.
11. From 20 to 23 April, spring-time inspections were held at the 1st Mech Regt in Oranienburg. Training level was rated rather poor with the artillery battalion showing the poorest standard of training. Subjects of training were to be repeated during the next weeks.
12. Unusually many recruits were assigned to the medium tank regiment in late April. 3
13. The personnel of the artillery battalion who previously wore red-bordered black collar patches since recently wore blue collar patches.
14. On 2 May 1954, the barracks installation in Hohenstuecken was occupied to capacity by KVP. 25X1
1. [] Comment. Some of the tank shipments from Oranienburg to Potsdam-Eiche had been indicated in reports on transportation. 25X1
2. [] Comment. Installations on Jaeger Alley include the former NCO school and the 3. Garde Ulanen Kaserne. Previous information did not indicate KVP in these two installations. 25X1
3. [] Comment. Reports by other sources also indicated that, in March and April 1954, the number of recruits assigned to various KVP units essentially increased in comparison with previous months. 25X1

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